



Jan J. Smith

January 20, 1954 - December 4, 2009

Jan J. Smith, of the Blackwood Terrace section of Deptford, NJ passed away on Dec. 4, 2009 at the age of 55 yrs. Proud father of Jennifer L. Smith. He is predeceased by his beloved wife Loretta (nee Lipnitz) and parents Joseph and Effie (Lenker) Smith.

Jan dedicated his life to serving the community. He was a life long member of the Union Fire Company and current Deptford Twp. Fire Commissioner, serving his 2nd term. He was also a former executive of Corestates Bank and an avid sports fan. Relatives and friends are invited to his viewing Friday 7:00pm to 9:00pm and Saturday 8:30am to 10:00am at the Earle Funeral Home, 122 W. Church Street, Blackwood, NJ 08012, where a prayer service will follow Saturday at 10:00 AM. Interment will take place at Eglington Cemetery, Clarksboro, NJ.

In lieu of flowers, donations are sincerely appreciated to: Jan J. Smith Memorial Fund c/o S. J. Federal Credit Union P.O. Box 5530 Deptford, NJ 08096.

Jan is a life long resident of Blackwood Terrace. As a child he played for the Deptford Little League Route 41 teams and attended Bethel Community Sunday School classes. He is a graduate of Deptford High School and was first trombone chair of the Deptford High School Spartan Marching Band. Jan attended Gloucester County College, the American Institute of Banking in Philadelphia and the Pennsylvania School of Banking.

In the early 1970's Jan joined the Philadelphia National Bank where he started out as a Trust Document Specialist. Within 5 years, he rose to Supervisor and spent 10 years as a Corporate Trust Officer managing billions of dollars in Trust Paper Assets. His legacy in banking is when he went into a downtown bank branch office building which was on fire to rescue commercial paper valued in the hundreds of millions of dollars. These papers were later transferred to an uptown vault by armor carrier to be reconditioned thus saving the financial integrity of multiple large corporations. Jan was Vice President of Corestates Bank before leaving. This is also where he met his future wife Loretta Lipnitz. After leaving the bank, he worked as a Dispatch Manager for MacKay Disposal. After a series of sales,

he landed as the Operations Manager with Veolia Environmental Services.

Jan and Loretta were married on October 15, 1977. They had celebrated their 30th anniversary in 2007 just prior to Loretta passing away. Jan and Loretta had such a special love for one another that is rare in today's world. They were always together, shared common interests and enjoyed each others company. Their greatest joy was the birth of their daughter Jennifer Lynne in 1988. As proud parents, they celebrated every accomplishment of her life and guided her with love to become the incredible young woman she is today. They found no greater joy than to sit on the side lines while she shined in the light either on the soccer or softball fields or in the band and academically. Jan and Loretta dedicated themselves to their marriage, daughter Jennifer, family and the community.

Jan officially joined the Union Fire Company in Blackwood Terrace as soon as he turned 17 in January, 1971, but even before that he was not only interested but involved in firehouse activities. Since that time he was always very active and involved in the entire community. He volunteered countless hours with the Deptford Ambulance and Rescue Squad. He was a graduate of the first EMT Class in Southern New Jersey. He was an original member of the first Gloucester County Auto Extrication Team and went on to become an instructor for the first traveling Extrication Course in New Jersey

Jan has held several positions of office within the fire company in the 39 years he served. He was a former First Assistant Chief and Vice President of Union Fire Company. In March of 2006 he was elected to the Deptford Township Fire District Commissioner. He was serving his second term and in March of 2009 he was named Secretary for the Board. One of his last accomplishments as Commissioner involved traveling to North Dakota to inspect new fire trucks for the Deptford District.

Jan was a man with great integrity. He treated everyone fairly, spoke the truth and never turned down a friend in need. He enjoyed life to the fullest and usually had a smile on his face. Jan was a firm believer that for a days pay, you should do a days work!

Jan was also an avid sports fan. He enjoyed watching the Philadelphia Phillies, Eagles and Flyers. Jan loved softball and played in the Semi Pro Fast Pitch Philadelphia Financial League. Later he played in a slow pitch league on Leidy's Market Team, Gloucester County Firemen's League and Custom Business Forms where his team won the championship! Jan has played on many teams where he met and became friends with men he admired. Whether camping, at the beach, working in the yard or hanging at the firehouse, he enjoyed being outdoors. As a member of the Fire and Iron MC he rode his

motorcycle proudly whenever weather permitted.

Jan is survived by his daughter Jennifer. She is set to continue the family value of serving the community as she is preparing to enter the work force as a Physical Trainer.

Jennifer is surrounded by a large and loving family consisting of 5 aunts and 5 uncles who will be there to guide her through life's adventures.

Events

DEC 11 Visitation 07:00PM - 09:00PM
Earle Funeral Home-BLACKWOOD LOCATION
122 West Church Street, Blackwood, NJ, US

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DEC 12 Service 10:00AM
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DEC 12 Visitation 08:30PM - 10:00AM
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Comments



“ Remembering you with warm memories on your one year anniversary of your death. You are missed.

Barbara Coleman - December 03, 2010 at 08:13 AM



“ I was in marching band with Jan back in the 70's. I thought he was the cutest boy I ever laid eyes on.... but he was taken by a very lovely girl .He was fun and full of life .I am sad to hear he's gone.

jackie land [STANMIRE] - May 16, 2010 at 06:43 PM



“ You do not know me as I was a high school friend of your father - we graduated from Deptford 1972.....he had been a special friend to me when we were in 10th or 11 grade.....he was in the band as I was a majorette..we were a couple and i remember him giving me a "charm" bracelet for Christmas.....i also remember your grandmother and her love of Christmas.....so sorry to read of his passing.....It looks like he had a very special marriage. and daughter

Gail Watson DeVault - December 11, 2009 at 05:44 PM



“

Dear Jennifer,

Please know that my thoughts and prayers are with you. In your Fathers passing many beautiful and memorable thoughts come to mind.

I had so many great memories of our time in the Deptford Marching band with your dad. Your Dad had an exuberance for life that shined so brightly and touched so many lives.

This was man of Integrity...A man of Inspiration...A man of Compassion and Service to his family and fellow man.This was a man who knew what was important in life. In his everyday he approached Life with Conviction,Passion and courage.

Your Father and Mother will always be in your heart forever. I know how proud they are of you in that you also have chosen a life of Service and helping others. A wonderfull life of Joy, Happiness, Depth, and meaning lies before you, and you could not have better Teachers than your Mom and Dad.They have taught you well. Have no doubt that your Family and Friends will always be there for you to lift you up in times of need and to encourage you in your Journey. This is because they Love you...and loved your Mom and Dad.

" Be confident in this one thing..

That God, who has begun a good work
in you..

will complete it "

Respectfully, Dad's Friend...Walt Kingston

Walt Kingston - December 11, 2009 at 12:07 PM



“

Jennifer,

I was so sad when I heard of your Dad's passing. I pulled up the photos and there he was, the way that I knew and remember him, in his band uniform. He more than lives up to his eulogy. I was thrilled when you were in the Jazz Band and told me that your dad was Jan Smith, a good musician and great guy.I will always remember him.

A. Hobbs DTHS MUSIC DEPARTMENT 1969-2004

AI Hobbs - December 10, 2009 at 06:08 PM



“ Jan boy as i sit here and send you this message i remember the fun times we had i even remember my first ride on the old 925 that you allowed me to take when i was just a young one .The years went on and i enjoyed our laughter and friendship in and outof the station that we called our other home.I miss you so much each and every day i remembered the big tight hug you gave me each time i came to visit till we meet again i want you to know i have your picture of us laughing by my side each and everyday, I MISS AND LOVE YOU UNCLE JAN

jason - December 10, 2009 at 06:04 PM



“ Jennifer, we're so sorry for your loss. Jan was an old friend who will be missed. Our thoughts are with you.

Mark & Christine Cocchi

Christine Cocchi - December 09, 2009 at 11:42 PM



“ We went to high school and were in the band together. While that was a long time ago, many old friends have called me this week to talk about Jan and his passing. What a testimony to a special guy and such fond memories! His life and smile will always be remembered. Jennifer, we haven't met, but I will be praying for you at this difficult time.

Barbara (Burton) Cesare - December 09, 2009 at 09:22 PM



“ I would like to send my condolences to the family and all the friends of Jan Smith. Things will be so different without him here.The Union has again lost another great one.I havent been down the firehouse that much lately but I started there a very long time ago as well as my fellow firefighters,I wiil always have fond memories of those days with Jan as i'm sure we all will.Everyone will miss you deeply,JAN
"GOD*BLESS"

Joe Ramsey & Family - December 09, 2009 at 06:55 PM



“ Jen,
We are very sorry to hear of your Dad's passing.
You, your Mom and your Dad were always a pleasure during our many soccer years together.
We are sure they are in heaven discussing whether you should be playing forward, midfield,
defense or goalie(you were great @all of them).
Our prayers and thoughts are with you and your family.
If there is anything we can do, please let us know.
Love,
The Amorosi Family

Ed Amorosi - December 09, 2009 at 04:56 PM



“ Jan will sorely be miss on Oak Ave.We have lived here for 25 years and in the last 10 years I really got to know the Smith'S. Jen you were the apple of your mom and dad's eye. You completed their life and i know how proud they are of you. This will make you a stronger person than you already are. We love you and are here for you always in the future.

Nancy Varrell - December 08, 2009 at 11:28 PM
